

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIM

1. (Previously presented) A procurement system for purchasing a special item between a buyer of the special item and at least one supplier capable of supplying the special item, said system comprising:

a fulfillment system for communicating between said buyer and said supplier;

an electronic database associated with said fulfillment system, said special item not being located within said database;

an electronic knowledge base including a plurality of predetermined relationships and a plurality of predetermined rules;

a special requisition for containing a description of said special item;

a common language generator for normalizing said database with respect to said predetermined relationships in accordance with said predetermined rules of said knowledge base; and

said common language generator normalizing information obtained in part from said special requisition by using said knowledge base and adding the information to said database for future reference.

2. (Previously presented) A procurement system as recited in claim 1, wherein said electronic database of said fulfillment system comprises an electronic catalog database, said catalog database comprising catalog item information normalized with respect to said predetermined relationships in accordance with said predetermined rules of said knowledge base.

3. (Previously presented) A procurement system as recited in claim 2, wherein said special requisition is partially normalized by said common language generator according to said predetermined rules, with said buyer suggesting enhancements to said predetermined relationships for creating a potential unique description of the special item.

4. (Previously presented) A procurement system as recited in claim 3, wherein said